









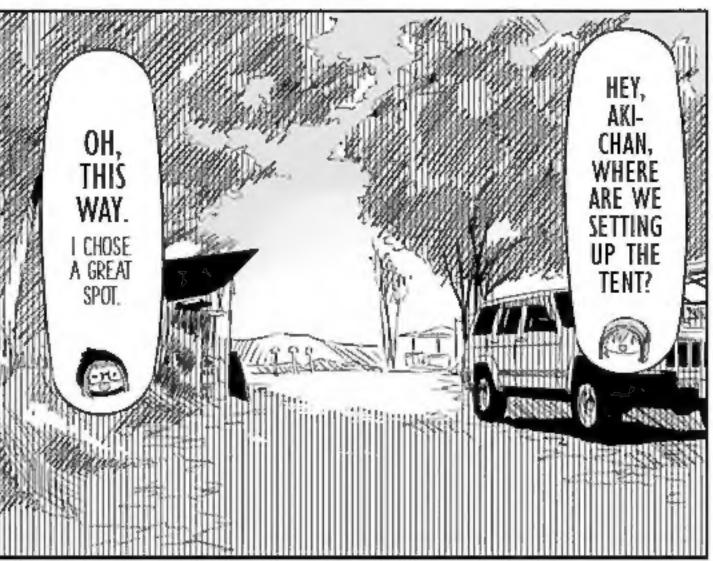
CHAPTER 8: THE SCENERY THEY SHARE, CAMPING APART



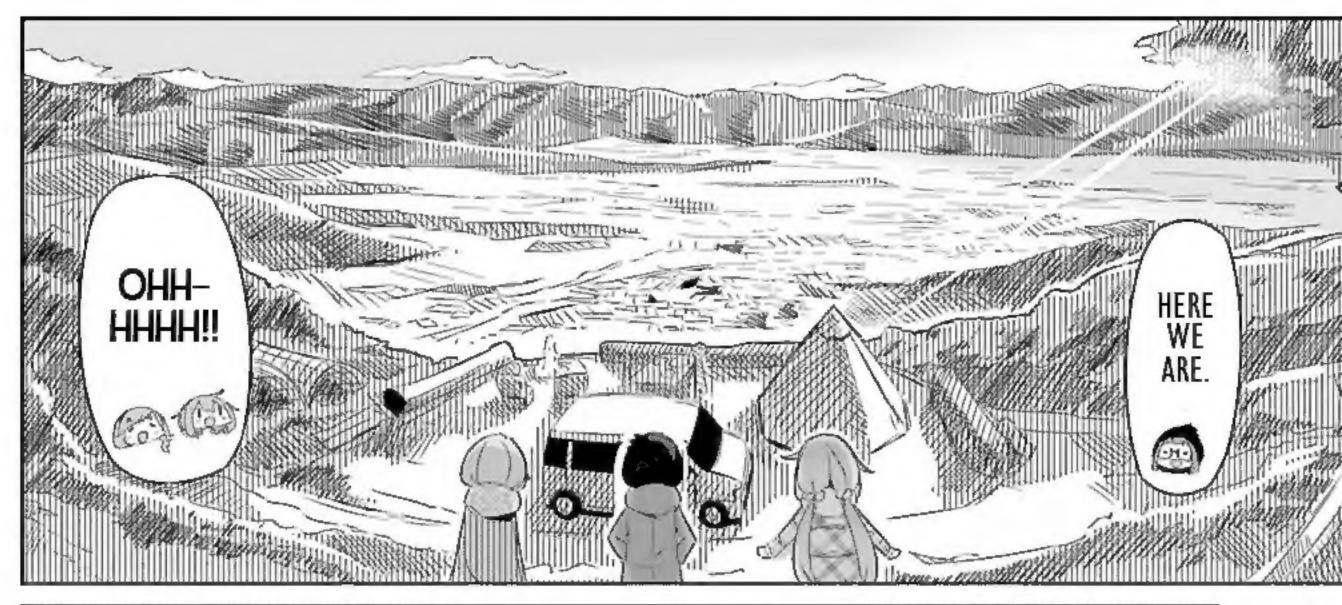
TN: Samue = traditional work clothes worn by Japanese Buddhist monks.



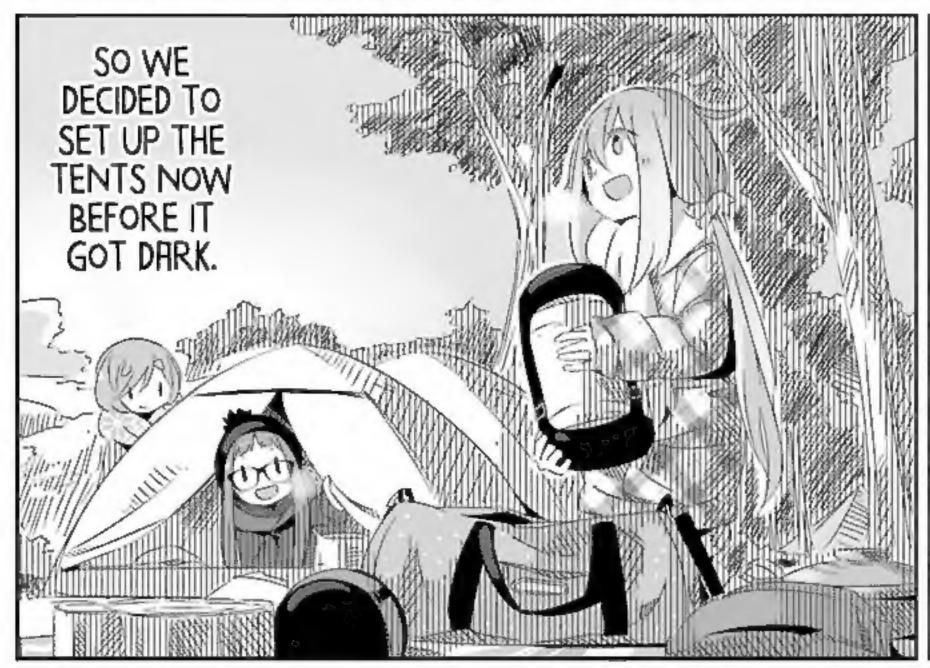




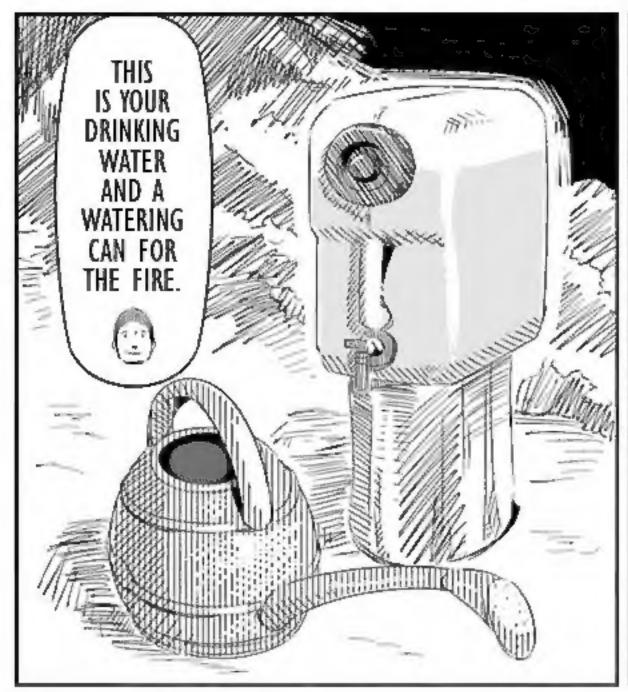












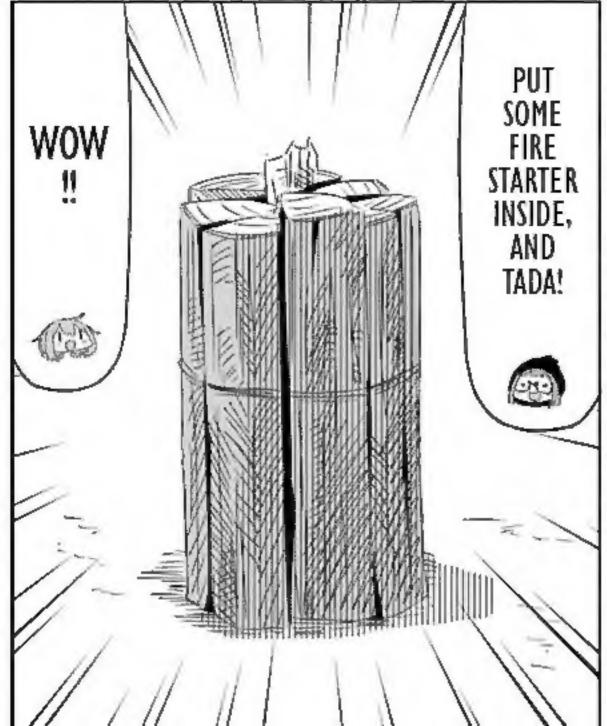




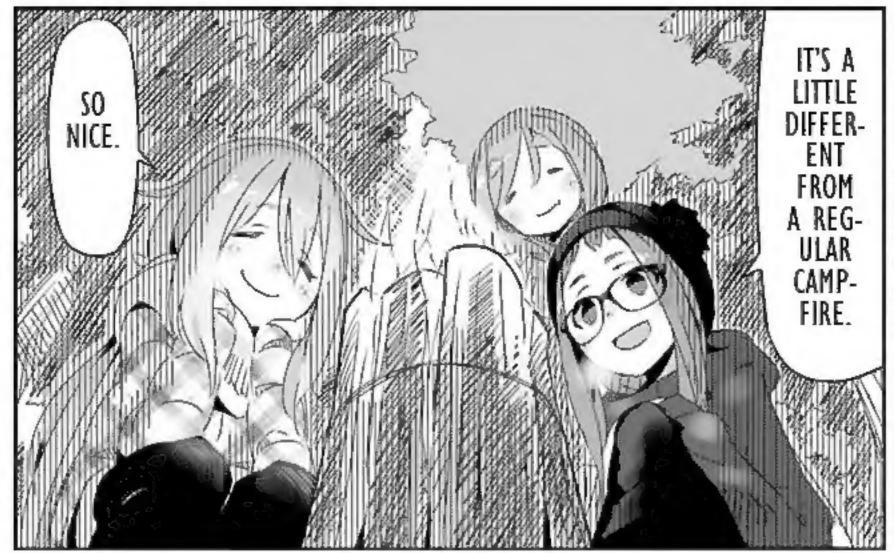


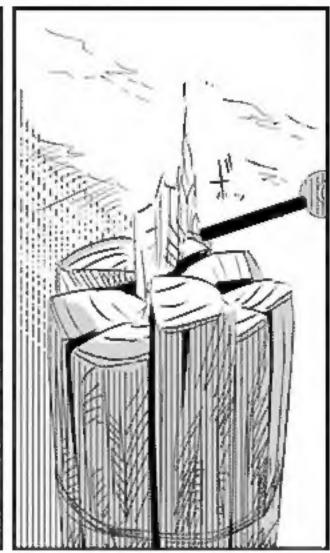






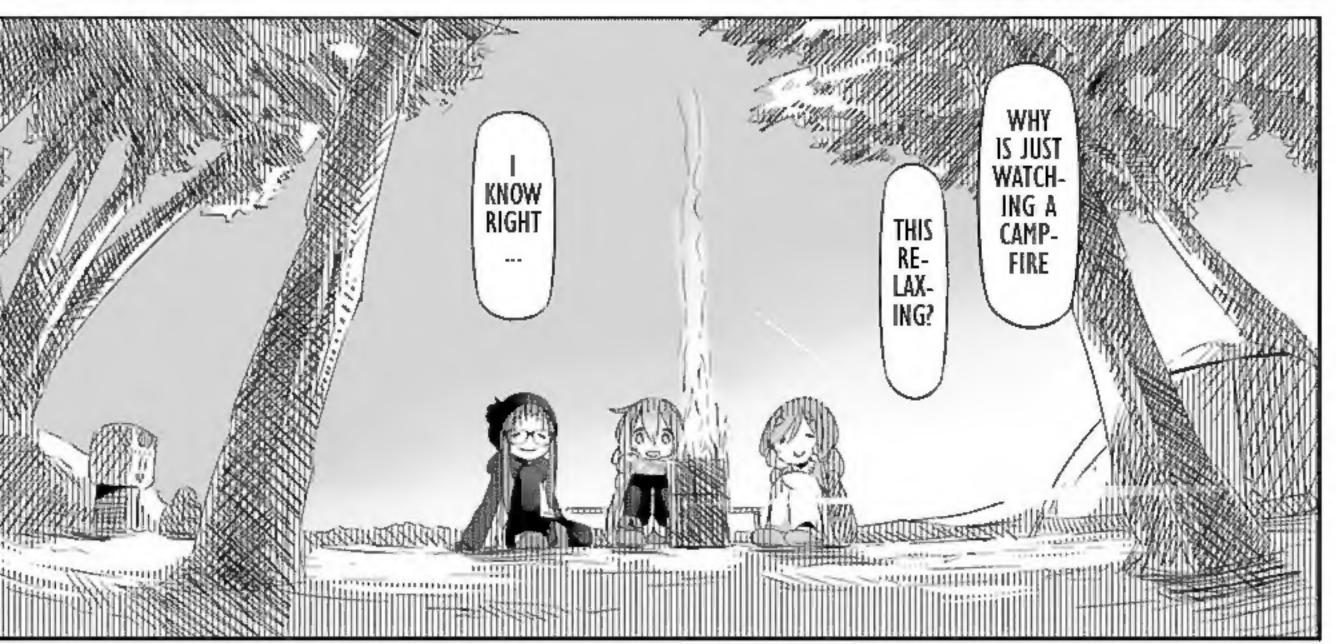


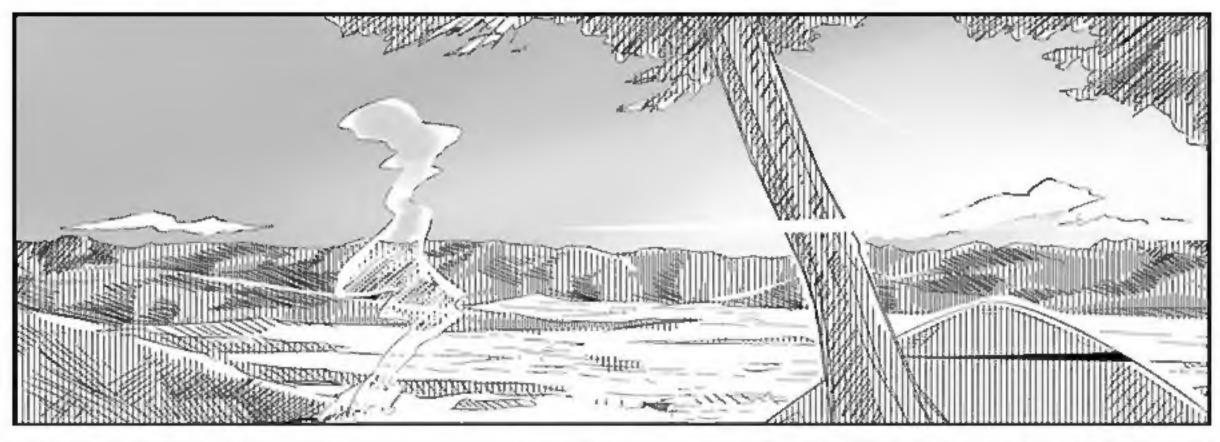










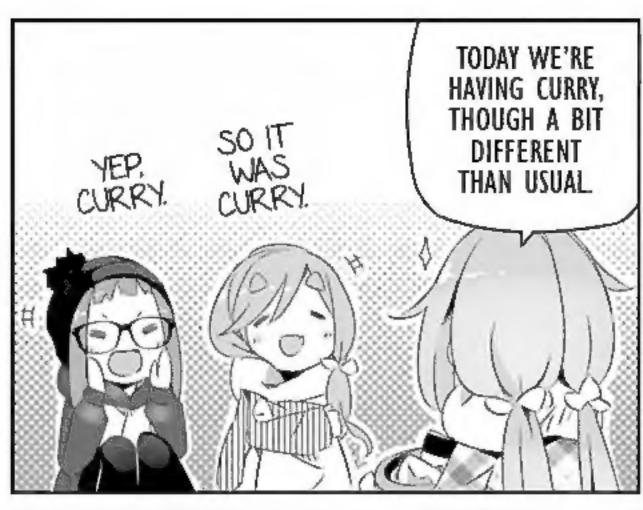






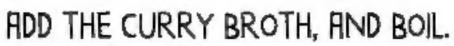












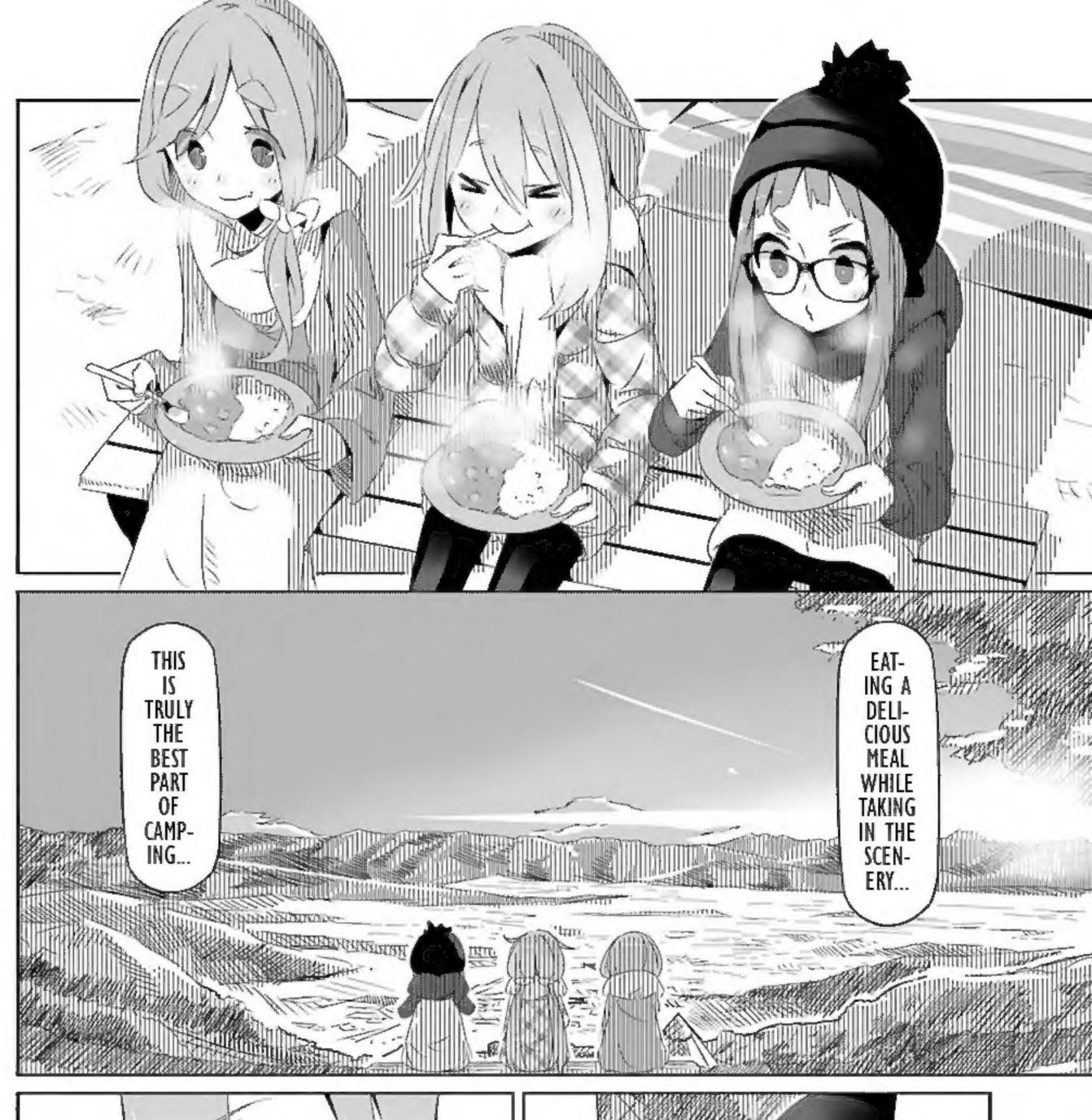






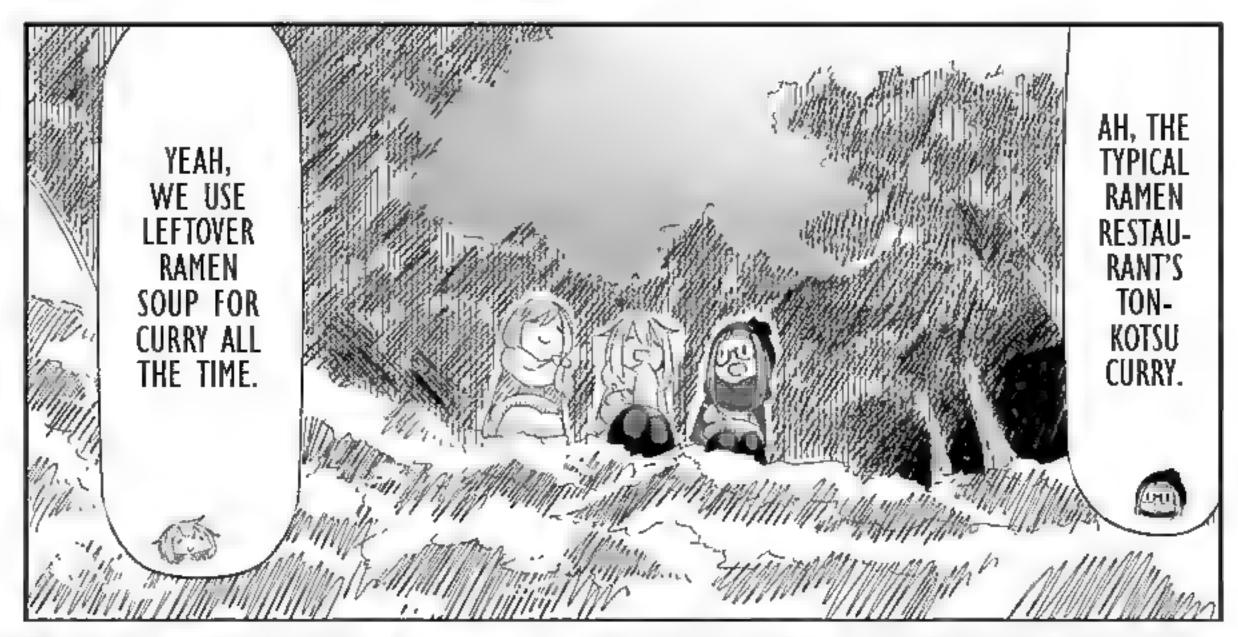


TN: Making fun of Aoi's Kansai dialect again.





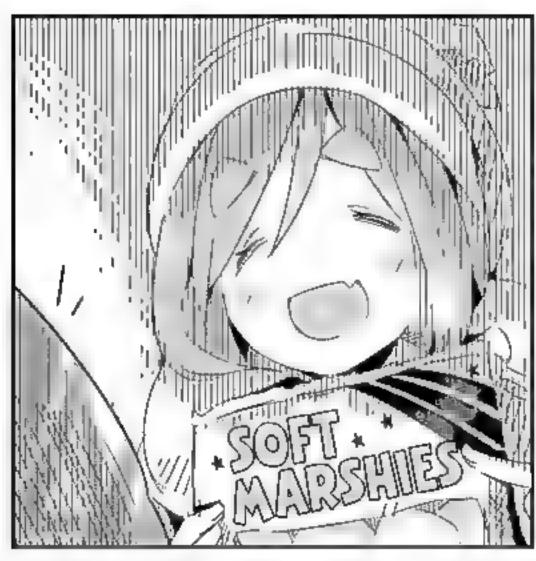


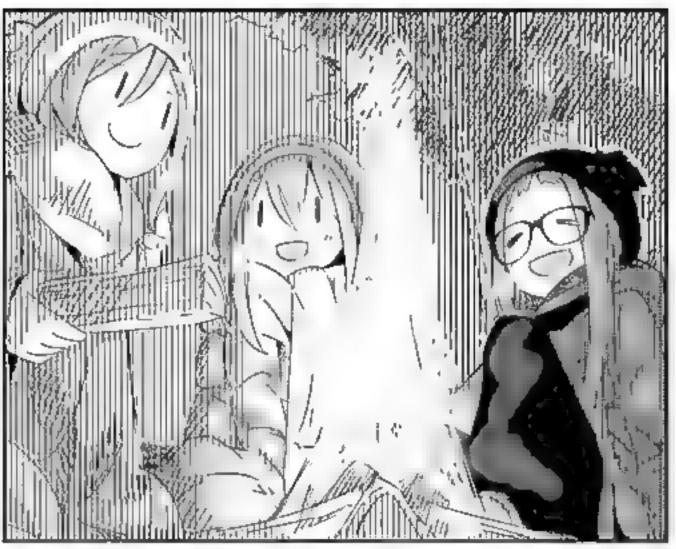




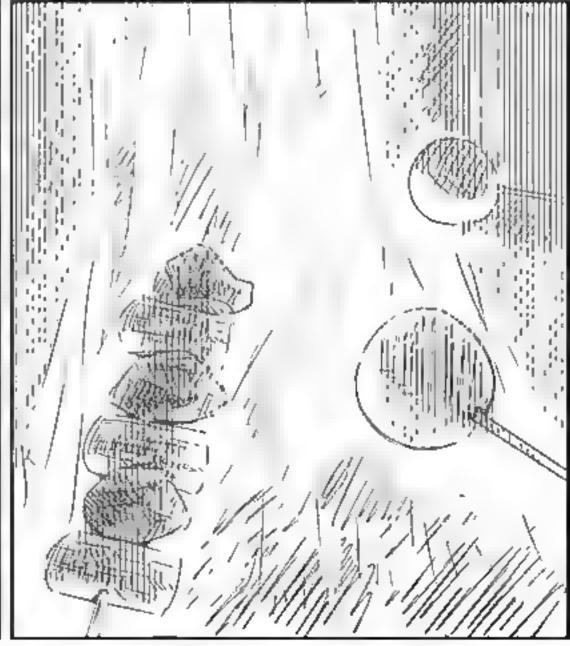


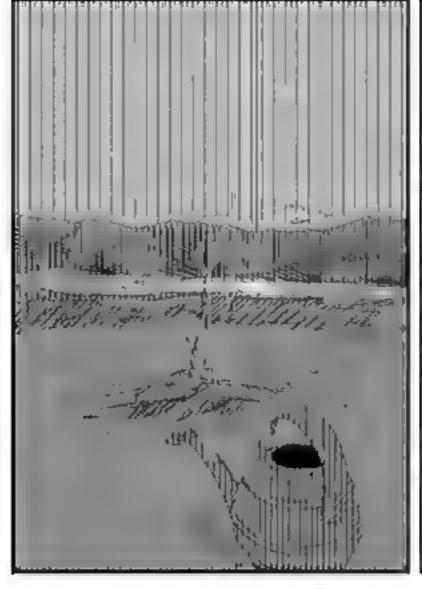




















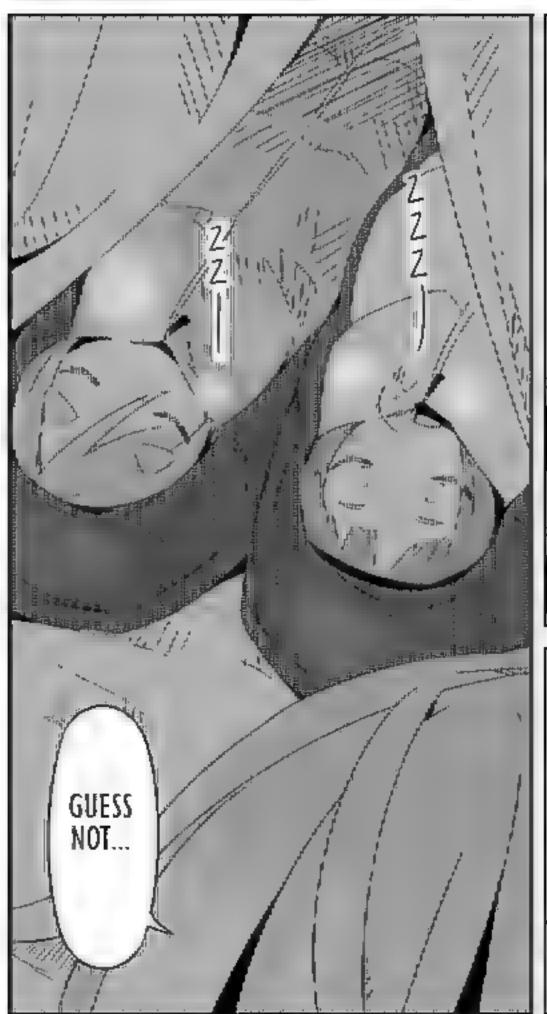








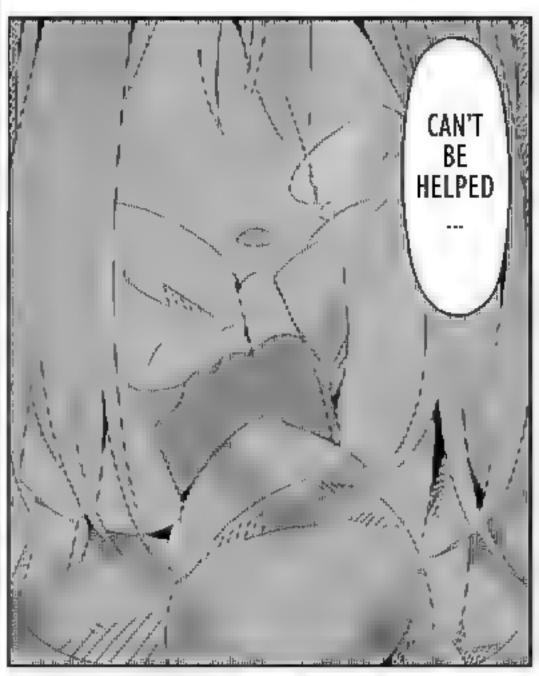




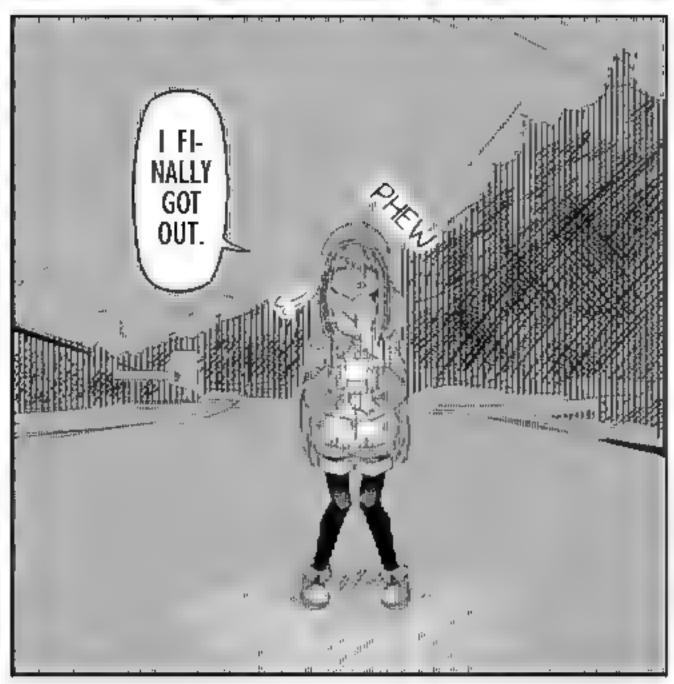






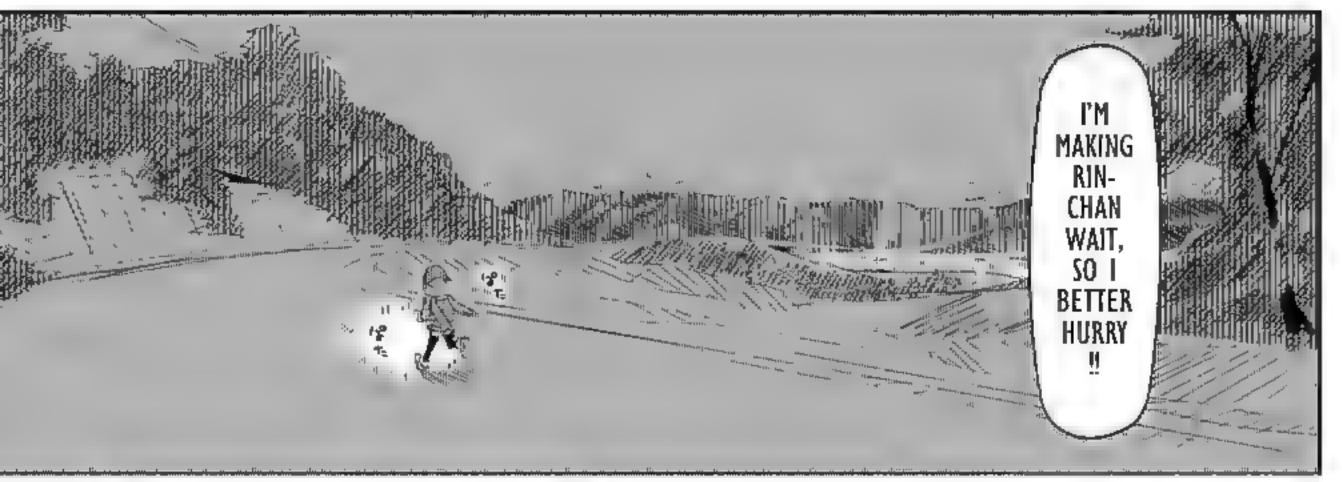


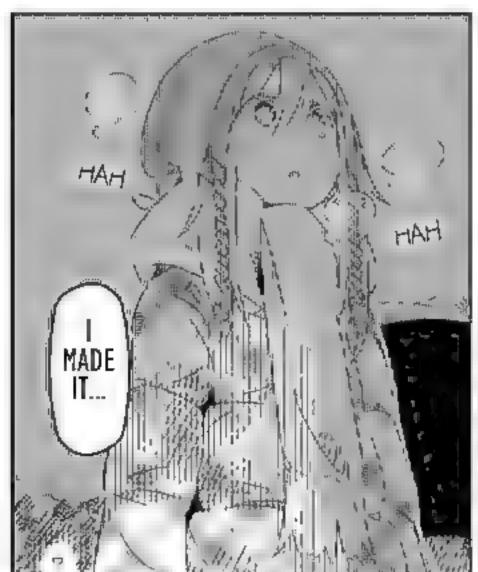


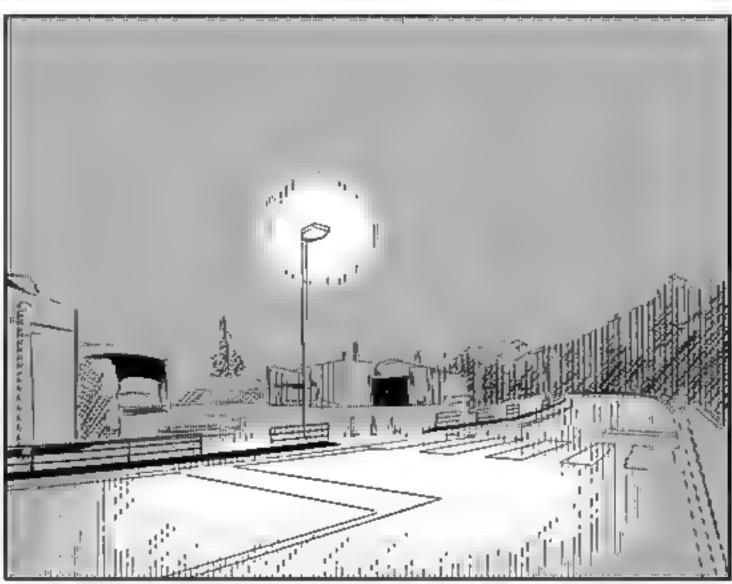
















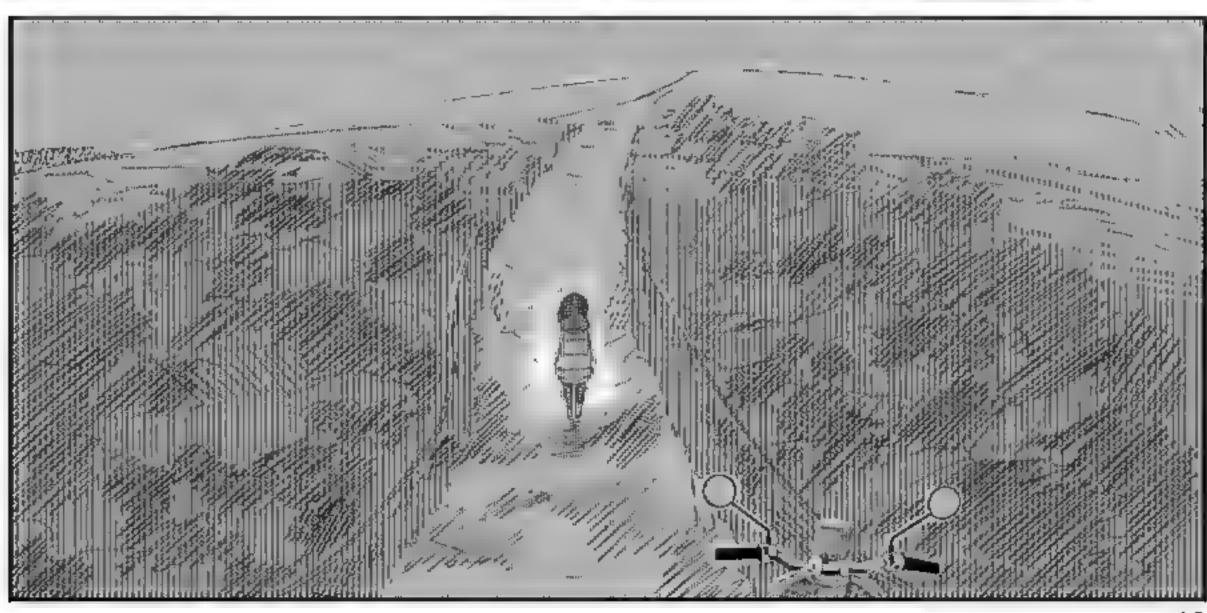








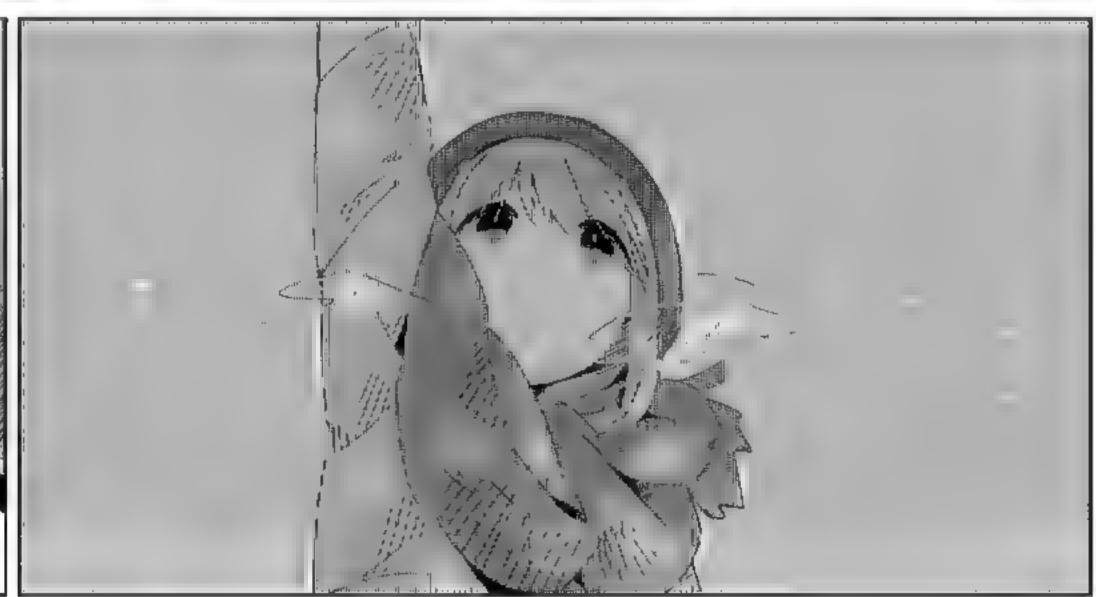


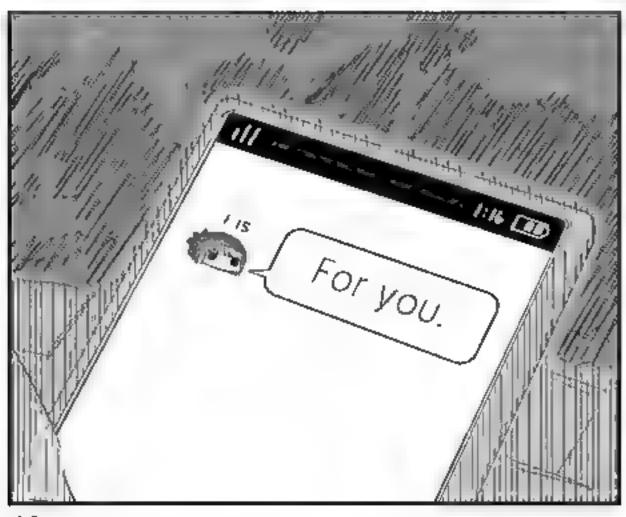


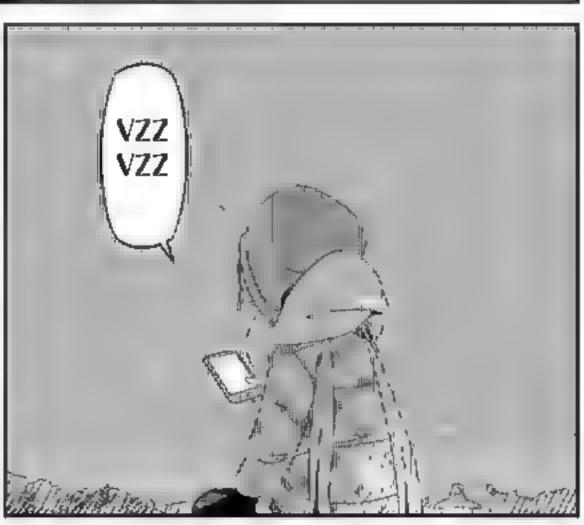




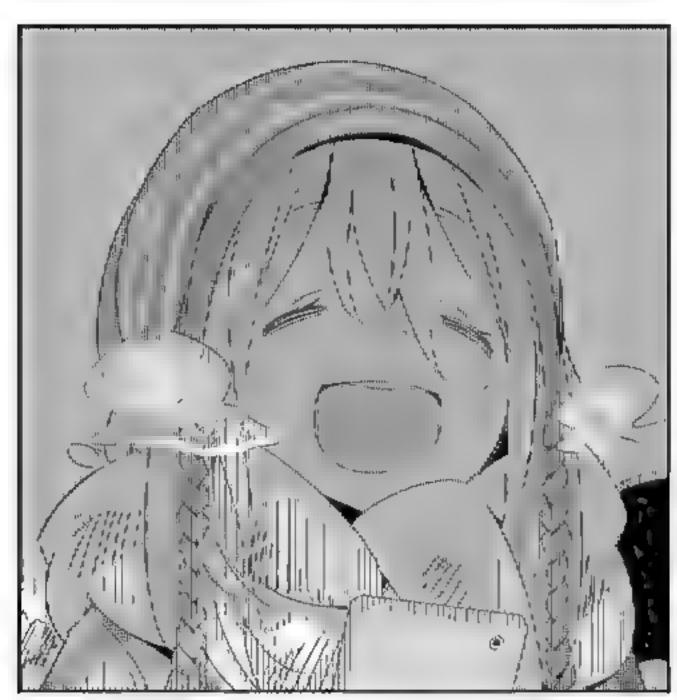




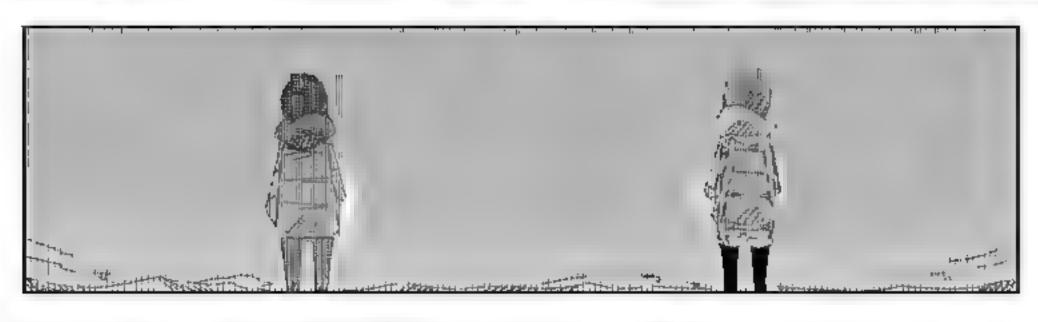


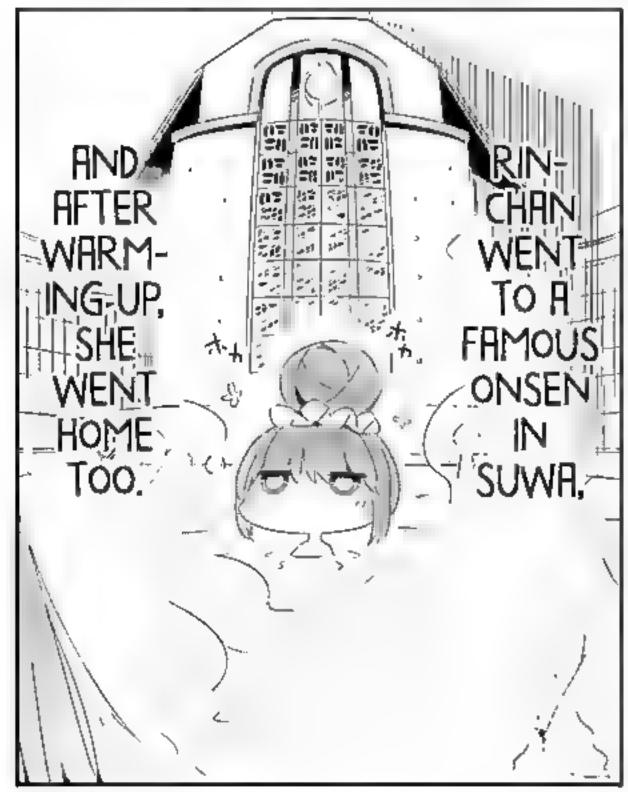














The Outdoors Club's Yamanashi Excursion



Translator's Travel Guide

Hottarakashi Onsen

Perched high on the slopes above Yamanashi, Hottarakashi Onsen gives bathers a view of a lifetime from the comfort of its warm waters. The name "Hottarakashi" means "left alone" and is said to have originated from the way the onsen operates "left alone," with zero advertising and minimal staff. There's no sauna, massage services, hot stone spas, or any of the other amenities you might find at your typical retreat-style onsen. Nevertheless, more than 450,000 people visit annually seeking to kick back and relax. The onsen is divided into two separate bathing facilities: "Kocchi no Yu" ("this spring") and "Acchi no Yu" ("that spring"). Kocchi no Yu is built of stone and fragrant logs that line the edges of the open-air bath. It offers a smaller, more intimate experience, in addition to a straight-shot view of Mt. Fuji and the nearby ridgeline of Mt. Kabuto to the right. On the other hand, Acchi no Yu is double the size and opened in 2003, four years after Kocchi no Yu. This is the bath that the girls enjoy in chapter seven. The view from here is arguably even more spectacular, especially at night, when the sprawling city lights Yamanashi and Koshu illuminate Kofu Basin like a dazzling sea of stars. The two springs come from different underground sources, so the pH level, temperature, and mineral composition varies. It's worthy to note that the waters of Acchi no Yu have a higher pH level, which is said to make your skin softer, and a higher temperature, sitting nice and toasty at 109 degrees Fahrenheit. Hottarakashi Onsen is open every day of the year from an hour before sunrise till ten o'clock at night. Other than the baths, there is a rest area, changing rooms that leave much to be desired, a small gift shop selling Yamanashi produce (including wine, which the region is famous for), and a food stand out front. You can get delicious fried onsen eggs for a snack - the same ones that Nadeshiko, Aoi, and Aki were so enamored by - or if you're craving something more substantial, breakfast is served using high-quality rice from a local farmer who's friends with the owner of the onsen.

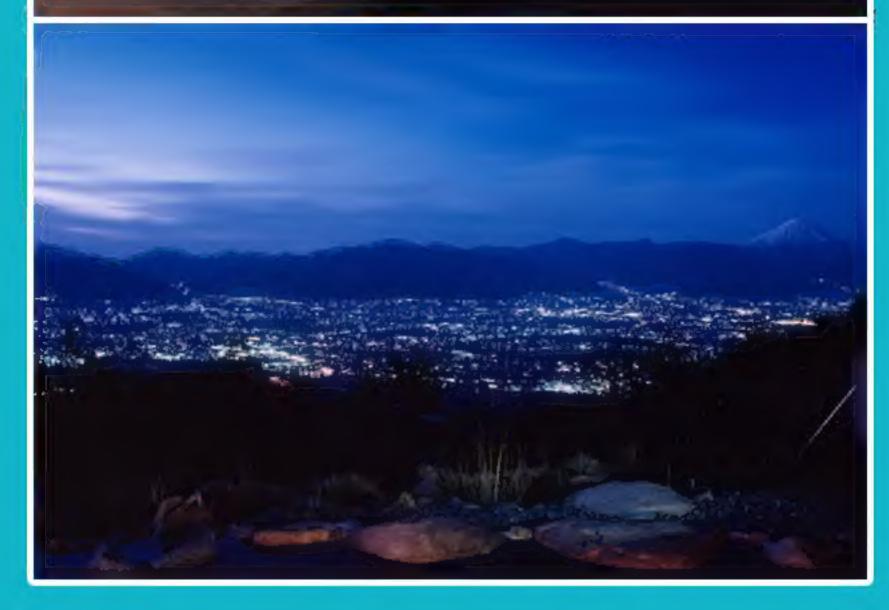












Translator's Travel Guide

Pine Wood Auto Campground

Just under a mile away from Hottarakashi Onsen is a small, private campground by the name of Pine Wood Auto Campground. There are five to seven sites staggered on different levels of the hillside. Each site is separated by plenty foliage for privacy, and the higher you go up, the better the view. And what a view it is! The Kofu Basin, Mt. Fuji, and the Misaka Mountain Range are all visible from the campground. Reservations must be made in advance by phone (there is no website), and it seems like weekends get booked pretty fast, usually by folks visiting Hottarakashi as well. When you checkin, a ten-liter tank of water and free firewood are conveniently provided. Just like in Yurucamp, the owner is a stylish and very gracious host. Apparently, he runs the campground as a side business to a landscaping company. He likes jazz music and even wants to set up a bar at the campground someday!







